

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
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Shuji HINUMA et al.) Group Art Unit: 1647
)
Application No.: 10/537,676) Office: Elly Gerald STOICA
)
371 (c) Date: June 6, 2005)
) Confirmation No.: 8346
I.A. Filing Date: December 11, 2003)
)
For: NOVEL USE OF EDG RECEPTORS)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Applicants now respond to the Office Action dated July 9, 2007, the date for response having been extended to December 9, 2007, by a Petition for Two-Months Extension of Time and fee concurrently filed with this response. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

Attachments to this amendment include:

- Gaits et al., "Dual Effect of Lysophosphatidic Acid on Proliferation of Glomerular Mesangial Cells" *Kidney Int* 51(4):1022-1027 (1997)
- Inoue, "LPA as a Determinant of Mesangial Growth and Apoptosis" *Semin Nephrol.* 22(5):415-422 (2002)
- Kimmel et al., "Diabetic Nephropathy in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: Animal Models with Emphasis on Recently Developed Corpulent Rat Strains" *Acta Diabetol* 29:142-148 (1992)

- Lehmann et al., "Molecular Mechanism of Diabetic Nephropathy" *Clin Chim Acta* 297(1-2):135-44 (2000)
- Steffes et al., "Mesangial Expansion as a Central Mechanism for Loss of Kidney Function in Diabetic Patients" *Diabetes* 38(9):1077-1081 (1989)